

AMENDMENT UNDER C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/764,078
Attorney Docket No. Q62753

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. Claims 3 and 10 have been canceled. Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11-14 are now pending in the application. The rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein.

As a preliminary matter, the Abstract has been editorially amended to correct a clerical error in the spelling of “speed” on line 2 of the original abstract.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) - Mori et al.

Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Mori et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,854,873; hereinafter “Mori”). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding independent claim 1, an exemplary embodiment of the claimed invention relates to:

[a]n audio and video reproduction apparatus comprising:

a video output controlling device for controlling an output of a decoded video signal;

an audio output controlling device for controlling an output of a decoded audio signal;

a video/audio signal synchronization controlling device for controlling the video output controlling device so that a decoded video signal whose position on a time axis is coincident with that of the decoded audio signal is outputted in synchronism with the decoded audio signal; and

a speed indicating device for indicating a reproduction speed,

wherein the audio output controlling device controls the output of the decoded audio signal based on the reproduction speed indicated by the speed indicating device, and

the video output controlling device controls the output of the decoded video signal so that the decoded video signal is selectively outputted according to the reproduction speed.

The Examiner alleges on page 3 of the Office Action that Mori discloses that “the video output controlling device controls the output of the decoded video signal so that the decoded video signal is selectively outputted according to the reproduction speed,” and specifically refers to column 9, lines 17-23 and 39-50 of Mori for this teaching.

However, the Examiner’s statement is not correct because Mori does not teach or suggest a decoded video signal being selectively outputted. On the contrary, Mori only discloses in column 9, lines 9-16 that the stored encoded sub-picture stream St17 is outputted as time-delayed encoded sub-picture stream St29 based on the timing signal St23 supplied from the encoding system controller (200). Therefore, Mori fails to teach or suggest a decoded video signal being “selectively outputted according to the reproduction speed,” as recited by claim 1 (emphasis added).

At least by virtue of the aforementioned differences, Applicants’ claim 1 is distinguished over Mori. Claim 8 is a corresponding independent method claim, and is also allowable over Mori for analogous reasons. Claims {2 and 4-7} and {9 and 11-14} are dependent claims including all of the elements of independent claims 1 and 8 respectively. Therefore, claims 2, 4-

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7, 9 and 11-14 are allowable over Mori for the aforementioned reasons as well as for their additionally recited features. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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